

**Maine Revised Statutes**  
**Title 17-A: MAINE CRIMINAL CODE**  
**Chapter 47: GENERAL SENTENCING PROVISIONS**

**§1151. PURPOSES**

The general purposes of the provisions of this part are: [1975, c. 499, §1 (NEW).]

1. To prevent crime through the deterrent effect of sentences, the rehabilitation of convicted persons, and the restraint of convicted persons when required in the interest of public safety;

[ 1975, c. 499, §1 (NEW) . ]

2. To encourage restitution in all cases in which the victim can be compensated and other purposes of sentencing can be appropriately served.

[ 1975, c. 499, §1 (NEW) . ]

3. To minimize correctional experiences which serve to promote further criminality;

[ 1975, c. 499, §1 (NEW) . ]

4. To give fair warning of the nature of the sentences that may be imposed on the conviction of a crime;

[ 1975, c. 499, §1 (NEW) . ]

5. To eliminate inequalities in sentences that are unrelated to legitimate criminological goals;

[ 1975, c. 499, §1 (NEW) . ]

6. To encourage differentiation among offenders with a view to a just individualization of sentences;

[ 1975, c. 499, §1 (NEW) . ]

7. To promote the development of correctional programs which elicit the cooperation of convicted persons; and

[ 1975, c. 499, §1 (NEW) . ]

8. To permit sentences that do not diminish the gravity of offenses, with reference to the factors, among others, of:

A. The age of the victim; and [1995, c. 149, §1 (NEW).]

B. The selection by the defendant of the person against whom the crime was committed or of the property that was damaged or otherwise affected by the crime because of the race, color, religion, sex, ancestry, national origin, physical or mental disability, sexual orientation or homelessness of that person or of the owner or occupant of that property. [2005, c. 551, §1 (AMD).]

[ 2005, c. 551, §1 (AMD) . ]

SECTION HISTORY

1975, c. 499, §1 (NEW). 1983, c. 152, (AMD). 1983, c. 480, §B24 (AMD).  
1995, c. 149, §1 (AMD). 2005, c. 551, §1 (AMD).

---

The State of Maine claims a copyright in its codified statutes. If you intend to republish this material, we require that you include the following disclaimer in your publication:

*All copyrights and other rights to statutory text are reserved by the State of Maine. The text included in this publication reflects changes made through the Second Regular Session of the 126th Maine Legislature and is current through August 1, 2014. The text is subject to change without notice. It is a version that has not been officially certified by the Secretary of State. Refer to the Maine Revised Statutes Annotated and supplements for certified text.*

The Office of the Revisor of Statutes also requests that you send us one copy of any statutory publication you may produce. Our goal is not to restrict publishing activity, but to keep track of who is publishing what, to identify any needless duplication and to preserve the State's copyright rights.

PLEASE NOTE: The Revisor's Office cannot perform research for or provide legal advice or interpretation of Maine law to the public. If you need legal assistance, please contact a qualified attorney.